

Christ the Power of God

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P. M.

Rom. Christ the Power of God
Acts 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the Gospel, for
it is the power of God unto salvation to every
one that believeth.
1 Cor. 1:24 Christ, the Power of God.

Intro. I would be the last to deny the good that
is in other religions and in the various
systems of ethics & morals. They contain
much that is true & beautiful & worthy.
~~However,~~ No other religion awakens within man
the transforming power of the Xn religion.
This is entirely due to the person of Christ
who is the heart & soul and life of the Xn religion.

No other founder of a religion ever
revealed God as the Heavenly Father
of all mankind as did Jesus. - God,
the wise, holy & Sovereign of the whole
world who in his love and righteousness
experience suffering for the sins of his
children and who patiently and successfully
is helping to redeem men from their sins
into the likeness of his own perfect character.

Among the group of great original
teachers of philosophic wisdom who
who set forth the Golden Rule as the
highest ethical standard Jesus stands
out and above them as strikingly as Mt.
Whitney towers high above ^{the} ~~the~~ Valley.
Jesus was the only one who applied
that principle with consistent self-sacrifice,
even towards his enemies.

4 Jesus was also the only one who based this universal rule of human conduct upon the character and universal conduct of the Supreme Being himself.

Jesus came among men and everywhere represented himself as the possessor of the attributes and the perfection of deity. That Jesus was and is the power of God is attested by what he said, by what he did & by what he was and is.

It was said of Mozart that he brought angels down. It was said of Beethoven that he lifted mortals up. Jesus did both - and more. Jesus is God's way to man. Jesus is man's way to God. He is Jacob's ladder by which a sinning man or woman, if he or she will leave his sin behind, may mount up to be with God and become like Him. Yes, Christ is the power of God in his own person.

II. Because Christ is the power of God in his own person, he is also the power of God in human experience. Christ can awaken the power of God unto salvation in any man who will let him do it. Jesus says, "Come and see. Come & try me. Come & put me to the severest test."

3 The young lady of unusual intellectual ability, highly trained & cultured, after listening to a certain preacher said to him, "Sir, intellectually, I just cannot accept your preaching that Jesus rose from the dead on the third day, as your scriptures allege."

"Well, what do you think about Christ, apart from his resurrection?"

"He is the fairest among 10,000. He is the one altogether lovely. I cannot find any fault with him. Everything about his work and about his words and about his character to the last degree appeals to me."

Then the minister asked her, "If he be the power of God in his own personality, if that be so, would not you like to know it?"

"Assuredly I do."

"Then go to him alone & tell him about your doubts & questions, and that you wish light and that you will yield yourself to him, letting him teach you & lead you in his own way. Try him in that experimental way."

"I will do so."

The next day, "I cannot prove by outside proof, that Jesus rose from the dead, but my heart knows he is alive, for he has made me alive."

The words of the dying scientist to Dr. Truett -

"Oh, pastor, go on and preach Christ to men, and nothing else, for nothing else, sir, will suffice

4/men who are in the grip of moral
loss and failure and defeat. Men
do not have moral resources within
themselves to rise & climb. Sir,
preach a divine Saviour to a lost world.
Preach that only till the day of your
death,"

Then he spoke his last word to each
of his children. Then to his wife.

"Mary, dear, you will know where
to look for comfort & strength when I
am gone."

"Mary dear, four different times have
we marched behind the hearse to the cemetery,
to put away out there, to ~~put away~~ our
child, and each time we found God's
grace sufficient."

Now Mary, when I go away to rest, you
will remember the 23rd Psalm, the 11th
chapter of John, and you will remember
always to call on Christ & be not afraid.

Then he repeated the 23rd Psalm -
Yea tho I walk - "See, Mary, He is with me
now" - he was gone.

The way that mother & her children
bore their loss without murmur - demonstrates
how God's grace in Christ is sufficient.

57 The young business man
rang up his pastor - "Be ready, I
will call for you in 10 minutes. I need
you much just now."

Came to door, ~~face~~ covered with tears +
benedict himself - "If you know how to pray,
you must pray now - our little girl is
at death's door, + the doctors hold out no hope.
Sir, ask God to spare her now."

"I will pray for her but not as you
suggest. I would not pray as you suggest
for my own children. I will ask
God if it can comfort with his will,
to spare your little girl, but if that
be not his will, that he will
fortify you + the little mother +
give you grace + strength to bear it
all."

The man turned on the pastor wildly
& said, "I suppose I could bear it if the
little girl is taken, but the little girl's
mother is an invalid and it will
kill her."

"No no, my friend, your wife is a
true Christian. She has a secret power
that will bear her up."

Reached home + went inside. Wrote
by the crib, stroking the forehead gently &

6/ the sick child, talking to the child
as the sands of ^{its} life hurried to a close &
then talking to God.

The father - "Is not my baby dying right
now?"

"Yes, she is dying right now." The
man hurried out, not able to stand it.

After it was all over, the wife said to
the pastor, "Where is my husband?"

"I will get him."

Found him back of cottage, overcome with
grief. "You will see, it will finish my
poor little morbid wife."

He led the grief stricken man back to home.
The mother was kneeling beside her dead baby
& praying. She was telling God that she
would always be a better woman because
he had given her the child.

While she paused pastor & husband entered.
Putting her frail arms around the shoulder
of her big husband she said, "Poor broken-
hearted husband, mother is so sorry for
you! Mother knows it is alright. Mother's
heart is filled with peace. Mother is so
sorry for you."

"If Christ can do that for my frail
wife, let me kneel beside my baby
and you tell Christ that I will give up to

"him right now." And he did.

Jesus is the power of God in human life. Is he your power? God help you if he is not.

You may drink from all the fountains of earth & you may try the perfume of every flower earth can give & you will come back desolate & despoiled, if you come back without Christ. Earth cannot heal your melody. Earth cannot cure your hurt.

Byron tried it - the brilliant gifted Byron - & as a result he found this:

"My ~~soul~~ days are in the yellow leaf.
The flowers & fruits of love are gone;
The worm, the canker & the grief
Are mine alone."

The noted actress after her brilliant performance,

"Oh my heart is broken. My heart
longs for something better & surer than
this. Yes, the human heart does long for
something better than this earthly life
can give - God has put eternity in the
soul of man & only in God can man
find his allsatisfying never-fading peace."

Are you willing for Christ to teach
you. Are you willing to let X save
you his way? He can and will
awaken within you the power
of God in all infinite wisdom
and goodness.